

**To:** Vela, Austin[Vela.Austin@epa.gov]  
**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Mon 8/10/2015 8:10:00 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Gold King Mine media request  
[PHstatement8-7.docx](#)  
[DissMetalsUpdate\\_08072015.docx](#)  
[Gold King Mine Release New Mexico Response 8 8 2015.pdf](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth Wasserman (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:) [mailto:ewasserman2@bloomberg.net]  
Sent: Saturday, August 08, 2015 11:42 AM  
To: Gray, David  
Cc: Smith, Paula  
Subject: RE: Gold King Mine media request

David:

Thank you for the information. And the river remains closed today to kayaking and other uses?

Best,  
Elizabeth

----- Original Message -----

From: gray.david@epa.gov  
To: Elizabeth Wasserman (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:)  
Cc: Smith.Paula@epa.gov  
At: Aug 8 2015 12:37:51

Hi Elizabeth,

I am happy to share the attached copies of sampling information with you. These are from the leading locations in Colorado. The heavy metals that are being sampled include cadmium, copper, lead, manganese and zinc. We also have looked at the PH in the immediate spill area since it impacts water quality. The reports are also on our public website.

Elevated heavy concentrations of metals is not safe in drinking water.

We aren't certain exactly how long each drinking water system in New Mexico (there are 5 of them) will have to shut intakes. We are working closely with NMED to monitor the water quality and the systems will not start up until water quality samples confirm the river's water quality is good. Each of the systems has the ability to treat and store water which has occurred already or alternative sources of water.

I hope this is helpful. I am also attaching a press release that I sent out a little while ago. I copied my counterpart Paula Smith in our Denver office on this response so that you have her contact information also.

David

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth Wasserman (BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM:) [mailto:ewasserman2@bloomberg.net]  
Sent: Saturday, August 08, 2015 11:19 AM  
To: Gray, David  
Subject: Gold King Mine media request

David:

I'm with Bloomberg News and we are updating a story we write yesterday on the spill.

Did EPA confirm yesterday to residents that there are heavy metals in the waste? Some other media are reporting samples contained lead, arsenic, cadmium, aluminum, copper and calcium, plus sediment.

What are the potential health hazards? And how long might drinking water systems along the route need to be closed?

Thanks for your help. Deadline is ASAP, of course.

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